

the Roadrunner

Nebraska ♦ Department ♦ of ♦ Roads

October/November 2007

Around the Bend

A crisp, autumn day at
Oak Lake Park in Lincoln.

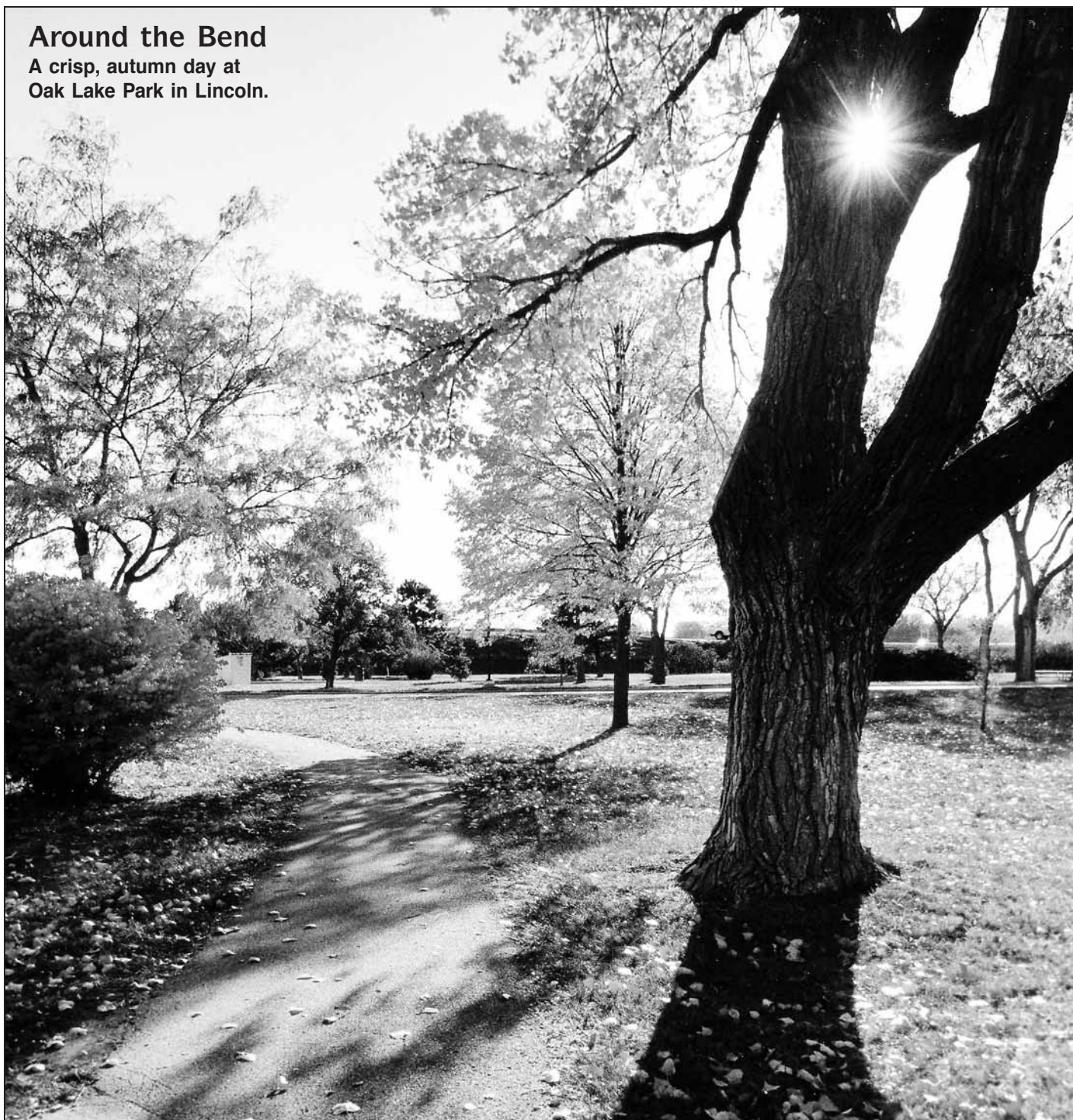


Photo by Jay Bailey

the Roadrunner

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Nebraska Department of Roads

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Governor Dave Heineman

Highway Commission

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
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| Dick Reiser | Ronald Books |
| John Kingsbury | Greg Wolford |
| Donna Wanitschke | Jerome Fagerland |

Administration

Roads DirectorJohn L. Craig
Deputy Director.....Monty Fredrickson
Deputy Director.....John Jacobsen
Legal Counsel.....Jeff Schroeder

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BridgeLyman Freemon
Business Technology SupportBill Wehling
CommunicationMary Jo Oie
Construction.....Claude Oie
ControllerSteve Maraman
Government AffairsLarry Shafer
Human Resources.....Sue Larson
Materials & ResearchMoe Jamshidi
OperationsTom Sands
Planning & Project DevelopmentRandy Peters
Project Scheduling.....Khalil Jaber
Rail & Public TransportationEllis Tompkins
Right-of-Way.....Randy Needham
Roadway Design.....James Knott
Traffic EngineeringDan Waddle

Districts

District 1Richard Ruby
District 2Timothy W. Weander
District 3Kristine Winter
District 4Wesley Wahlgren
District 5Craig Lind
District 6Gary Thayer
District 7Kurt Vosburg
District 8Mark Kovar

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printed on recycled paper

The information in this newsletter is contributed
by employees, retirees and friends of NDOR.



Are We Doing All We Can, Every Day?

Timothy W. Weander
District 2 Engineer



Tim Weander

Director Craig asks each of the Division Heads and District Engineers to provide a column for the Roadrunner. It is now my turn and I have wondered what can I offer to you, the Nebraska Department of Roads, and partners with this article? What is my perspective?

My experiences may be different from most as I am a second generation Department of Roads employee. I have worked in the central headquarters, three districts and have lived in five districts. This experience has allowed

me to see the state and the services we provide from multiple perspectives. It also brings to the forefront the term "legacy." What are you and I doing to leave Nebraska a better place?

Honesty, integrity and expertise are some of the most highly regarded personal assets we, as Department of Roads employees, can provide to the citizens of Nebraska. We must use these personal assets to perform our work and guide our decision processes. As employees of the state, we must do what is right for Nebraska.

Is your work and what you produce something you are proud of? Are you just collecting a paycheck or are you offered a career at the Department of Roads? I have heard a company state they don't just offer a paycheck—they offer careers. I would contend that the Department of Roads is such a place. I would hope you would say the Department of Roads is your career and the decisions you make every day focus on improving your work areas, the Department of Roads, Nebraska, and yourselves.

As we deal with present realities, we must make the right decisions for the next generations of Nebraskans and Department of Roads employees. We must be foresighted with these decisions. In this time of budget crisis and dwindling funding, we must continue to provide a safe highway system for the traveler; therefore, we are rightly focusing on surface preservation.

The System Preservation Optimization Team, the Fleet Asset Study Team and the Funding Distribution Team are current teams that come to mind who are helping us focus our assets and goals on the future. These teams have, or will present difficult decisions for us to make.

These same types of difficult decisions have been made in the past, by our predecessors due to funding issues, and they will continue to be made into the future. Difficult decisions are the legacy of past generations. Current employees of the Department of Roads have this same ability and expertise to leave Nebraska a better place and provide a clear vision for those that follow us.

As I reflect on the dedication and long-term commitments made by Department of Roads employees, from the 50-year employees forward, I see a continuation of the past and a backbone to the future as we guide and nurture the future of our state transportation system.

With all this in mind, I'll leave one last thought: Think of the tasks you do today as a link in a chain. Perform these tasks as if your link will keep the chain together. This link connects us to the past and to the future of the Nebraska Department of Roads. ♦

Peters Named New Planning & Project Development Engineer

Randy Peters, Traffic Engineering Division Manager at NDOR for the past 10 years, is the new Planning & Project Development Division Manager. He succeeds Art Yonkey, who retired after 49 years of service.

For more than 30 years, Peters has worked at the Roads Department in a variety of capacities, including a stint as Photolog Technician in which he traveled every mile of every highway, twice! In 1987 he moved to the Roadway Design Division serving as a Roadway Designer, Computer-Aided Design Coordinator, and finally as Assistant Division Head. In 1997 he was promoted to Traffic Engineering Division Manager.

Born and raised in Bloomfield, Nebraska, Peters graduated from Bloomfield High School in 1973. In 1977 he began his career at NDOR in the Transportation Planning Division. In 1982 he decided to pursue an engineering degree while continuing to work at NDOR. After five years, Peters earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from UNL in 1987. The same year he earned his professional license.

During his tenure at NDOR, Peters said he has most enjoyed meeting many great people and building long-term relationships over the past 30 years. He noted that NDOR has been a major contributor in the building of this state, adding, "It's very rewarding to be a part of that legacy. I look forward to all the interesting new challenges we'll face as we move ahead."

In discussing goals he would like to achieve in his new position, Peters said, "I'd like to build on Planning and Project Development's record of good service and expert knowledge in providing utility coordination,



Randy Peters

environmental stewardship, agreements management, transportation planning and corridor studies."

Peters' philosophy for successful management involves five steps: "Surround yourself with good people, communicate the desired results, streamline processes,

measure progress and recognize achievements."

Peters and his wife, Kay, have been married 26 years. They have a daughter, Tessa, who attends UNL, and a son Will, along with Whitney, and granddaughter, Ellie. Peters is a Nebraska history buff and enjoys travel, spending time with family and friends, and the company of his yellow lab and Boston terrier.

Art Yonkey Retires

Born and raised in Lincoln Nebraska, Art Yonkey graduated from Lincoln High School in 1955. He became a registered professional engineer in Nebraska in 1964.

Yonkey began his career at NDOR

in 1956 as a surveyor on a Right-of-Way survey party in the Sandhills. The next summer, in 1957, he worked out of Fairbury as a grading and subbase inspector. The following two summers, in 1958 and 1959, he worked out of Tecumseh as a paving inspector.

In 1960, Yonkey graduated from the University of Nebraska and started working full-time in the Roadway Design Division doing geometric design. He was asked to serve on an interstate preliminary survey party for a few days, which he said turned into six months. While in Roadway Design, Yonkey was a Designer, Urban Engineer and Final Plans Engineer. In 1978, he moved to Project Development Division as Location Studies Engineer and in 1989 was promoted to Project Development Engineer where he remained at the helm for 18 years. The Division's name was changed in November 2001 to Planning and Project Development Division.

During his retirement, Yonkey plans to keep traveling with his wife, Betty, spend time with his son and daughter, Jason and Megan, play the guitar and hunt with his dogs. ♦

Recycling Brings Rubber to Road on U.S. 81

The Nebraska Department of Roads recently received a grant in the amount of \$301,005.00 from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality's Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants Program. The grant program provides funds annually for integrated waste management activities in Nebraska.

The funds will be used on an eight-mile overlay project on Highway 81, just west of Hartington,

using recycled automobile tires in the asphalt pavement. The project will use approximately 23,000 used Nebraska tires.

The state and the contracting industry will gain experience working with Crumb Rubber Modified Asphalt and will continue to advance pavement technology with the use of recycled tire rubber. The contractor on this project is Dobson Brothers Construction Company of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Waddle Named New Traffic Engineer

Dan Waddle is the new Traffic Engineering Division Manager for the Nebraska Department of Roads. Waddle, a licensed professional engineer, succeeds Randy Peters, who was promoted to Planning & Project Development Division Manager after serving 10 years in his position.



Dan Waddle

For 25 years, Waddle has worked at the Roads Department in a variety of capacities in Traffic Engineering, including traffic analysis, signal design, signing and marking, and most recently as the Assistant Traffic Engineer/Traffic Control Engineer.

Born and raised in Lincoln, Waddle graduated from Lincoln East High School. After earning his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from UNL in 1982, Waddle began his career at NDOR.

Over his tenure at NDOR, Waddle said he most enjoys the many opportunities he has to work with fellow employees throughout the

department, both in the district as well as at the central headquarters.

In discussing goals he would like to achieve in his new position, Waddle noted, "I want to continue to improve the safety of our highway system for both our workers and the traveling

public, while continuing to provide a reliable and efficient transportation system."

Waddle said trust is an integral part of his management philosophy. "Trust in your employees and provide them the training opportunities and support to succeed and the authority to make their own decisions."

Waddle and his wife, Angie, have been married 26 years. They have four children, Amy, 20, a sophomore majoring in music at UNL, Greg, 17, a junior in high school, Sara, 13, in seventh grade, and Maria, 6, in kindergarten. In his spare time, Waddle enjoys family and outdoor activities, including boating, water skiing, camping and working at their acreage. ♦

Recommended Reading

More good books as recommended by Director John Craig

"Almost a Miracle - The American Victory in the War of Independence" by John Ferling, 2007, 679 pages.

An outstanding read and reported to be an outstanding companion piece to his earlier work on the political dimensions of the American Revolution—a complex war of over eight years, involving at some level a great many international powers. There was very little belief that American independence would be achieved, including by George Washington. The fighting was a mix of Continental versus British Regulars, State Militias, Partisans and neighbor against neighbor (British Tories against Rebel Loyalists) and, aside from perhaps the American Civil War, no conflict has so touched the lives of ordinary citizens. The Continental Army had racially integrated units which did not exist again until the Korean War. One underlying theme throughout was the paucity of good roads and bridges, a theme that has never left our collective consciousness is alive and well today and will likely continue into the indefinite future. There were a myriad of interests and reasons why people did or did not engage in the American Revolution. This book also points out the importance of leadership. It helps to flesh out the flaws (indecisiveness and insincerity being two) and strengths (he listened to advice) of George Washington's leadership but also leaving little doubt that

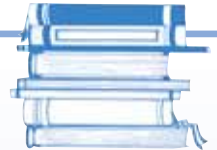
"fortune smiled on the infant nation when Washington was selected to head it into this war."

The forlorn conditions under which America's soldiers were made to live and campaign was a national disgrace. Even at the end, soldiers who had not been paid for years were given a certificate for three months that was virtually worthless. They are the unsung heroes of the American Revolution. In the end, the American people and their soldiers had endured much with the hope that the future would hold greater promise than under monarchical Great Britain.

"Soldier: The Life of Colin Powell"

by Karen Young, 2006, 610 pages.

A great read. I found the first part of the book about Powell's military career personally interesting because I served in common units, locations as well as experiences shared by many military officers. However, his military career was truly extraordinary. The later part of the book provides insight into his service at the highest levels of the federal government in several administrations, and the many challenges he faced. A loyal and trusted soldier as the title depicts, you can draw your own conclusions of politics, policy-making and human nature at the highest levels of these various administrations.



New D-5 Headquarters Opens in Gering

NDOR's District 5 headquarters has moved to a new location. In July, staff completed the move from Bridgeport, where the headquarters had been located for the past 74 years, to their new office in Gering.

District 5 staff from Scottsbluff also relocated to Gering, as the new location consolidated the district office with the maintenance and construction offices formerly located in Scottsbluff. The new building is located near the John McLellan Jr. Expressway, N-71, southeast of Gering.

Craig Lind, District 5 Engineer, noted that district staff appreciated the patience and support from the public during the transition. He said they look forward to working with the public from the new facility.

The new "environmentally friendly" facility features an earthen berm on the north and west side of the exterior, buffalo grass and other plantings requiring less water, and a geothermal heat pump system for the main office. Equipment and materials from construction and maintenance offices in Scottsbluff will be under one roof with headquarters office staff and a spacious conference room, an emergency operations center, crew room and a drive-through mechanics bay with a 20-bay garage unit.

The new District 5 headquarters address is 140375 Rundell Road, P.O. Box 220, Gering, NE 69341. The office can be reached by phone at (308)436-6587 and fax (308)633-6614.

District 5 is located in Nebraska's panhandle. The district includes Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Dawes, Deuel, Garden, Kimball, Morrill, Scotts Bluff, Sioux and Sheridan counties. ♦



Photo by Don Hull, District 5

The new NDOR District 5 headquarters opened in July at Gering, after relocating from Bridgeport.



Surface Transportation Program Plans Announced

Nebraska's 2008 Surface Transportation Program reflects how the department allocates the taxpayer's highway user dollars to provide the best statewide highway system possible for all Nebraskans and the traveling public.

The 2008 program is published at \$589 million. The state highway program totals \$341 million and is funded from state and federal highway user fees. The local system program for city streets and county roads totals \$248 million and is

funded by state, federal and local highway user revenues.

A total of 143 new projects will be let to contract on the state highway system during fiscal year 2008 (July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008). Projects throughout the state will range in size from small projects for lighting, crack sealing, joint sealing, chip sealing, traffic signals, intersection modifications and armor coating to large projects such as two and four-lane grading, structures, surfacing, resurfacing and viaducts, six-lane interstate

expansion and Missouri River bridge projects.

Some of the larger projects include Interstate 80 from I-180 to 56th Street in Lincoln; South Omaha Veterans Memorial Bridge on US-275; Petersburg East on N-32; Aurora to Central City on Nebraska Highway 14; Oshkosh West on US-26; Thedford Viaduct on US-83; In Orleans and West on N-89; and Merriman West on US-20.

The complete Surface Transportation Program Book is available at <http://www.dor.state.ne.us/hwy-pgm/>

District Champions Honored at Snow Rodeo



Top District – Representing District 7, l to r: Merle Poppe, Grant; Bruce Barwick, Alma; John Metzger, Benkelman; Larry Peterson, District 7 Operations & Maintenance Manager; Stacy Strong, Holdrege; Dave Casper, Minden; Ed Rinehart, McCook; Mike Chambers, Arapahoe; Dan Kuss, Holdrege; Matt Schmalz, Holdrege; John Craig, Director.

By Denise Wallman
Operations Division

The obstacles are ready...
The judges are ready...
Contestants, are you ready?

Contestants from Districts 2, 3, 5 and 7 delivered the winning scores at the 2007 State Snow Rodeo held August 22 in Kearney. Carsten Barger, District 3 - Bloomfield, took top honors in the loader competition and Randy Burr, District 5 - Bridgeport, was runner-up.

Claiming champion status in the tandem-axle truck competition was the winning team of Jim Karlin and Kirk Strong, District 2 - Fremont. Runners-up were Jimmy Eisenhauer and Carsten Barger, District 3 - Bloomfield. The coveted Top Overall District award was presented to District 7.

Both first- and second-place winners in the loader and truck categories will represent Nebraska at the national competition in Estes Park, Colorado.

NDOR's Operations Division hosts the annual State Snow Rodeo competition, where District maintenance personnel involved with snow and ice operations demonstrate their driving and operating skills as they maneuver through the obstacles on each course. ♦



Truck Champions – l to r: Kirk Strong, D2-Fremont; John Craig, Director; Jim Karlin, D2-Fremont.

Loader Runner-up – l to r: Randy Burr, D5-Bridgeport; John Craig, Director.



Loader Champion – l to r: Carsten Barger, D3-Bloomfield; John Craig, Director.



Photos by Jay Bailey

Truck Runners-up – l to r: Jimmy Eisenhauer, D3-Bloomfield; John Craig, Director; Carsten Barger, D3-Bloomfield.



AAA Asks Motorists to Slow Down, Move Over for Emergency Vehicles

When AAA roadside problem solver Tim Griffin came to the aid of a member on Interstate 75 in Atlanta late one night, he assumed it would be a routine call to assist a family stranded on the side of the highway. But in fact, Griffin's roadside assistance vehicle ended up being the potentially life-saving barrier between a speeding car and the family of six he was assisting.

With his vehicle's safety lights flashing and safety cones in place, Griffin was helping the family with their disabled vehicle when a passing car slammed into his vehicle. "If I hadn't positioned my truck behind the family's van to protect it and its occupants, that car would have struck it. And as fast as it was going, I know it would have injured the kids sitting in the back," said Griffin.

Unfortunately, incidents like this occur across the country all too frequently. "I've felt side mirrors of passing cars brush my back hundreds of times while helping members," admitted Dan Bartlett, a roadside problem solver in Washington.

Roadside problem solvers, police, paramedics and other first-responders who work along the side of our country's highways are faced with the danger of passing vehicles swerving into them each day. In fact, AAA's service vehicle drivers respond to more than 29 million calls for help each year and can frequently find themselves in potentially dangerous situations.

The risks faced by those who work for the protection of motorists, as well as the growing number of injuries and fatalities, has mobilized AAA clubs to support the passage of "move-over" laws that include protection for road service providers. In several states, these laws now require motorists on multi-lane roads to move over into a lane away from a towing or other service vehicle working at the

roadside or to slow down significantly below highway speeds if they are unable to merge into another lane.

While 40 states currently have move-over laws on the books, 19 of them require motorists to move over only for law enforcement, fire and rescue vehicles—leaving roadside assistance vehicles without the required protection that numerous AAA roadside problem solvers wish they had.

"Move-over laws are essential for the safety of both emergency and

roadside assistance workers, as well as the public they are interacting with," said Margaret Pittelkow, managing director of AAA Roadside Assistance. "Not enough motorists are aware of the move-over laws in their states and the danger they put roadside workers and other motorists in when they do not slow down or move over. AAA advocates the enactment of move-over laws for all roadside workers and encourages all motorists to move over or slow down whenever they see persons working at the roadside." ♦

If You Become a Stranded Motorist

The danger can be just as great for the stranded motorists who are seeking assistance. However, you can take some key steps to protect yourself along the roadside.

Pull off the road. Try to exit onto the far right shoulder as far off the road as possible while remaining on level ground. On an interstate or multi-lane highway with medians, you may consider the left shoulder, again pulling as far away from the traffic as possible.

If you cannot pull off the road, switch on emergency flashers, and do not risk danger to yourself by attempting to push your vehicle to a safe location. If you think your vehicle might be struck from behind, do not remain in it. You should proceed carefully and watch for oncoming traffic while exiting the vehicle, never stand behind or directly in front of it because other drivers may not see you.

Alert other motorists. Make sure your vehicle is visible to other motorists by turning on your emergency flashers. If your vehicle is along the roadside, raise your hood and tie a brightly colored handkerchief or scarf to the antenna or door handle. You can also hold a

handkerchief or scarf in place by closing a window on it. Flares or warning triangles can also be placed behind your vehicle to alert other motorists.

Communicate your situation.

Once you and your passengers are in a safe location, you can call for assistance. If you have a cell phone, call for help from inside your vehicle if you are safely out of traffic. Otherwise, call from a safe distance from the vehicle and roadway.

Remain with your vehicle. Under most circumstances, if you have a cell phone it's best to remain with your vehicle until assistance arrives. If there's no telephone available within a safe walking distance, try to get the attention of other drivers and seek out law enforcement if possible.

If you choose to exit your vehicle while on the roadside, try to exit through the side of the vehicle facing away from the road. If you remain inside where you are comfortable, safe and secure, keep the windows almost closed and the doors locked.

While you should always take the proper steps to secure yourself if you become stranded, it is important to always be aware of surroundings as you drive.



Photos by Laura Vroman

Above - Supervisors Pat Holley and Mike Mosiman inspect Bryan Bridge with the Niobrara River below.

Left - The crew gets a close look at the Highway 12 bridge near the golf course over the Minnechadua River.

NDOR Checks Local Bridges

By Laura Vroman

Valentine News

(Reprinted with permission)

With their snooper truck parked on the deck of Bryan Bridge, Nebraska Department of Roads technicians and supervisors were checking for metal fatigue, corrosion, condition of concrete, and points where there should be movement. While they check the bridges on a routine basis in Nebraska, this check was prompted by the disastrous bridge collapse in Minnesota on August 1.

The inspection took place August 15. Not only was Bryan Bridge checked out, so was the bridge crossing the Minnechadua River on Highway 12 by the golf course.

Governor Dave Heineman said, "We're trying to focus on public safety and the Department of Roads are reviewing the bridge structures." There are four bridges in Nebraska that are built similarly to the one in Minneapolis, and are called deck truss

bridges. This means the deck is sitting on a truss that spans a distance.

Supervisor Pat Holley said after inspecting Bryan Bridge, which crosses the Niobrara River, "It looks good under there for being built in the '30s. We didn't find any corrosion like we do in the eastern part of the state."

After a bit of lunch, it was on to the Highway 12 bridge over the Minnechadua River. Because the span is not near as large, nor as high, it took less time for the inspection.

Supervisor Mike Mosiman said, "It's in pretty good condition. No repairs are needed—it's in good shape." This bridge is held together with rivets and Mosiman said there is very minimal corrosion, which is a main concern.

A letter from the Secretary of Transportation, Mary Peters, called on all states to inspect steel decked truss bridges. NDOR Communication Division Manager Mary Jo Hall Oie said, "We don't have any bridges like

the one in Minneapolis, but we said we'd look at the steel decked truss, which is closest to [that design], and look at any spans on the highway system. There are four in Nebraska that fit that category." The other two bridges that fit that category include the South Omaha Bridge that is scheduled to be rebuilt, and the Rulo Bridge in southeast Nebraska.

Hall Oie said, "The Governor and the Director said to do whatever we needed to check all our bridge spans to insure safe travel. There are no critical issues to be reported."

Checking the bridges included supervisors Mike Mosiman and Pat Holley, snooper driver Tom Rule, Bridge Technician Kelley Green, Inspection Technician Rod Wroblewski, and newly hired technicians Shannon Erdman and Paul Ernst. Local crews included: Burnell Nieuwenhuis, Rusty Kieborz, Kelley Russell, Kent Lopez and Mike Witt. ♦

NDOR Highway Improvement Projects Currently Under Contract

As of September 11, 2007

Location
Work Description
Prime Contractor
Project Manager
Contract Bid Amount

Key:

Aggregate - Agg
Bituminous - Bit
Bridge - Br
Building - Bldg
Concrete Pavement - ConPav
Culverts - Culv
Electrical - Elec
Grading - Gr
Guardrail - Gdrl
Landscaping - Lndscp
Mechanically Stabilized Earth - MSE
Seeding - Seed
Specialty - Spec

District 1

Beaver Crossing Southeast
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Lane, Chris (402)483-5466
\$548,870.20

Preston North & South
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Lane, Chris (402)483-5466
\$960,309.99

Odell Northwest
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl
Commercial Construction, Inc.
Lane, Chris (402)483-5466
\$385,885.85

Swanton Northeast
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Vanroekel, Kirk (402)483-5466
\$455,080.20

Palmyra Southeast
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717
\$631,826.87

Western North & South
Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Vandegrift, Allen (402)729-3489
\$2,659,225.87

Weeping Water North & South
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,
Gdrl, Elec
Constructors, Inc.
Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131
\$10,894,723.90

In Syracuse
Bit
Pavers Companies
Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131
\$299,497.01

N-63 Interchange
Gr, MSE, ConPav, Culv, Seed,
Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign
Hawkins Construction Co.
Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850
\$9,165,909.38

Lincoln South (SB)
Specialty
Chester Bross Const. Co. &
C.B. Equipment, Inc.
Niazi, Babrak (402)471-0850
\$654,575.19

Mainline EB Bridge Waverly Intchg.
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed Br,
Gdrl, Elec, Sign
Hawkins Construction Co.
Niazi, Babrak (402)471-0850
\$6,135,087.75

Platte River Bridges
Gr, MSE Wall, ConPav, Culv,
Seed, Br, Gdrl, Fence, Sign, Elec
Hawkins Construction Co.
Knutson, Dewaine (402)471-0850
\$45,189,781.90

Auburn South
Specialty
Municipal Construction, Inc.
Cary, Bill (402)335-4131
\$335,998.96

Kansas North & Liberty Spur
Bit
Dobson Bros. Construction Co.
& Affiliates
Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131
\$1,054,092.73

In Pawnee City
Gr, ConPav, Culv
TCW Construction, Inc.
Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131
\$154,362.33

Emerald East
Gr, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Wilke Contracting Corp.
Sanburn, Bob (402)471-0850
\$272,756.28

I-180 - 56th St., Lincoln
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,
Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign
Dobson Bros. Construction Co.
& United Contractors Inc. (JV)
Sanburn, Bob (402)471-0850
\$48,766,667.84

US-77 So. Intchg. to I-180, Lincoln
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,
Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign
Dobson Bros. Construction Co.
& Affiliates
England, Jim (402)471-0850
\$28,886,121.30

Church Road Bridge
Gr, MSW Wall, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Bit
MCC, Llc
Preble, Rodger (402)471-0850
\$2,488,052.17

K & L Interchange
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,
Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign
Dobson Bros. Construction Co.
& Affiliates
Traudt, Bob (402)471-0850
\$10,119,343.74

176th St. Bridge, Lincoln
Gr, MSE Wall, Culv, Seed,
Br, Gdrl, Bit
Hawkins Construction Co.
Traudt, Bob (402)471-0850
\$2,650,963.64

Lincoln
Hdqtrs. Building Addition
Cheever Const Co
Murillo, Ernest (402)471-0850
\$1,282,348.00

Lincoln West
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,
Br, Gdrl, Elec
Dobson Bros. Construction Co.
& Affiliates
Hobelman, Ryan (402)471-0850
\$12,430,182.09

Districtwide, D-1 & D-4
Specialty
Garcia-Chicoine Enterprises, Inc.
Kuehn, Joseph (402)471-0850
\$223,164.70

Waverly Intchg. WB Bridge
Bit
Dobson Bros. Construction Co.
& Affiliates
Kuehn, Joseph (402)471-0850
\$161,817.55

District 2

Arlington North
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Dixon Construction Co.
Mooberry, Jon (402)488-2500
\$512,650.35

Blair North Bridge
Gr, Br, Gdrl
MCC, Llc
Brown, Darin G (402)727-3292
\$718,892.48

Nickerson East & West
Specialty
Municipal Construction, Inc
Brown, Darin G (402)727-3292
\$362,073.80

Fremont East Bypass
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,
Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign
Werner Construction, Inc.
Veverka, Frank (402)727-3292
\$26,555,563.32

I-480 WB/U S-75 NB Bridge
Over Burt, Omaha
Gr, MSE Wall, ConPav, Culv,
Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign
Hawkins Construction Co.
Baehr, Dennis (402)595-2534
\$17,399,999.32

Harney St. - 24th St. (EB), Omaha
Gr, MSE, ConPav, Culv, Br,
Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign
Hawkins Construction Co.
Baehr, Dennis (402)595-2534
\$14,628,136.26

Gretna - Q St.
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,
Br, Gdrl, Elec
Chas. Vrana & Son Constr. Co.
Farivari, Mo (402)595-2534
\$12,569,244.55

In Elkhorn
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec
Chas. Vrana & Son Constr. Co.
Trujillo, Ray (402)727-3292
\$5,327,891.36

In Omaha
Specialty
Chester Bross Construction Co.
& C.B. Equipment, Inc.
Khalaf, Zahi (402)595-2534
\$2,731,406.97

I-680, Fort St. Noise Wall, Omaha
Specialty
MCC, Llc
Khalaf, Zahi (402)595-2534
\$654,915.10

Springfield North
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed Br, Elec
Cedar Valley Corp. & Subsidiary
Khalaf, Zahi (402)595-2534
\$10,491,763.71

72nd St., N-36 to I-680, Omaha
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,
Gdrl, Fence Elec
Chas. Vrana & Son Constr. Co.
Weander, Marty (402)595-2534
\$5,273,885.67

Fort St. - 72nd St., Omaha
Specialty
Missouri Pavement Maint., Inc.
Weander, Marty (402)595-2534
\$130,000.00

Expand I-80 EB & Kennedy SB
One Lane & Bridges
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Gdrl,
Elec, Sign
Hawkins Construction Co.
Fisher, Rick (402)595-2534
\$14,986,342.61

N-370/90th St., Papillion
Elec
Commonwealth Electric Co.
of the Midwest
Fox, Mike (402)595-2534
\$29,789.51

So. Omaha Veterans Memorial
Bridge Repair
Br
Cramer & Associates, Inc.
Fox, Mike (402)595-2534
\$172,455.00

Hooper East & West
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,
Br, Gdrl, Elec, Sign
Werner Construction, Inc.
Jacobs, Micky (402)727-3292
\$22,401,622.91

Camera Installation, D-1 & D-2
Elec
Watts Electric Company
Kuehner, Chris (402)595-2534
\$548,217.20

Louisville East
Bit
Constructors, Inc.
Kuehner, Chris (402)595-2534
\$1,396,548.67

Union - Plattsmouth
Bit
Constructors, Inc.
Kuehner, Chris (402)595-2534
\$1,340,700.00

Plattsmouth West
Bit
Constructors, Inc.
Kuehner, Chris (402)595-2534
\$1,407,807.74

US-34/75 & 8th Ave., Plattsmouth
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Lndscp, Elec
Tab Holding Company, Inc.,
dba Tab Construction
Kuehner, Chris (402)595-2534
\$1,532,179.63

West Dodge Rd. (WB) Expressway
Bridge 108th - 120th
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Spec,
Elec, Sign
Hawkins Construction Company
Zelensky, Rich (402)595-2534
\$62,989,885.92

District 3

Belden Northeast
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl
Dixon Construction Co.
Lane, Chris (402)483-5466
\$468,554.22

Brunswick Northwest
Gr, Culv
A & R Construction Co.
Cowles, Scott (402)443-4661
\$86,854.57

Clearwater South
Gr, Br, Gdrl
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Mead, Terry (402)371-6416
\$571,179.59

Albion Northeast
Br
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Lilley, Brendan (402)366-1869
\$279,813.90

Columbus Northeast
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Gdrl
Christensen Bros., Inc.
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717
\$796,202.88

Platte Center Southwest
Gr, Br, Gdrl
A.M. Cohron & Son, Inc.
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717
\$351,028.40

Stanton Northeast
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717
\$300,900.75

Beemer Southwest
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717
\$548,688.10

Wisner Southwest
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717
\$435,454.26

Stanton Southwest
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl
Wilke Contracting Corp.
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717
\$319,016.40

Crofton Northwest
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl
Elk Horn Construction Co.
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717
\$409,973.90

Hartington Southwest
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl
Christensen Bros., Inc.
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717
\$528,348.92

Verdigre Southwest
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Graves Construction Co., Inc.
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717
\$560,669.70

Windside Southeast
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Dorsey, Brian (402)483-5466
\$435,390.40

Jct. N-84 to West Jct. N-12
Bit
Dobson Bros. Construction Co.
& Affiliates
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071
\$1,067,411.43

Norfolk - Stanton
Specialty
Knish Corporation
Brashears, Seth (402)370-3474
\$607,996.24

Wayne North
Specialty
Monarch Oil, Inc.
Brashears, Seth (402)370-3474
\$406,986.26

Monowi - Verdel
Bit
Knife River Midwest, LLC
Becker, Roger (402)254-6552
\$862,320.01

Jackson East
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Elec
Werner Construction, Inc.
Becker, Roger (402)254-6552
\$4,590,436.36

East of Petersburg
Gr, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Anderson, David (402)564-5751
\$2,931,753.70

West Point - Scribner
Bit
Constructors, Inc.
Anderson, David (402)564-5751
\$1,712,560.53

Albion Equipment Storage Facility
Albion Equipment Storage Facility
J.H. Hespe Company, Inc.
Trosper, Steven (402)564-5751
\$286,643.00

In Wayne
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec
A & R Construction Co.
Brummond, Scott (402)375-7071
\$2,426,281.58

Wayne North
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Fence, Elec
A & R Construction Co.
Brummond, Scott (402)375-7071
\$1,658,440.65

Yankton Bridge
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,
Fence, Gdrl, Elec, Sign
Jensen Construction Co.
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$23,903,498.78

Norfolk West
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,
Br, Gdrl, Elec
Werner Construction, Inc.
Schulz, Ron (402)370-3474
\$20,299,017.48

Building No. 32501
Neligh Re-Roof Project
Radec Construction Co. Inc.
Lollman, Doug (402)370-3474
\$207,900.00

N-84 to N-12
Gr, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Dobson Bros. Construction Co.
& Affiliates
Lollman, Doug (402)370-3474
\$2,995,990.16

Neligh - N-121
Gr, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Lollman, Doug (402)370-3474
\$6,624,518.65

District 4

In Guide Rock
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Gdrl
A.M. Cohron & Son, Inc.
Lane, Chris (402)483-5466
\$432,839.34

Shickley North
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl
Elk Horn Construction Co.
Lane, Chris (402)483-5466
\$499,597.31

In Geneva
Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Lane, Chris (402)483-5466
\$225,942.43

In Superior
Bit
Vontz Paving, Inc.
Lane, Chris (402)483-5466
\$354,534.85

Nora Southeast
Gr, Br, Gdrl
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Lane, Chris (402)483-5466
\$372,017.13

Fullerton Northeast
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Lilley, Brendan (402)366-1869
\$349,402.96

Sutton South
Bit
Vontz Paving, Inc.
Lilley, Brendan (402)366-1869
\$963,137.65

Alexandria West
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Commercial Construction, Inc.
Lilley, Brendan (402)366-1869
\$494,826.80

McCool Jct. Northeast
Br
Wilke Contracting Corp.
Lilley, Brendan (402)366-1869
\$328,374.91

Campbell East
Bit
Vontz Paving, Inc.
Kohmetscher, Lyle (402)462-1996
\$2,324,719.76

Districtwide, D-4, D-6 & D-7
Specialty
Garcia-Chicoine Enterprises, Inc.
Kohmetscher, Lyle (402)462-1996
\$221,334.88

L-50A - 11th St., Kearney
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434
\$2,223,460.62

Elm Creek South
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,
Gdrl, Fence Elec Sign
Paulsen, Inc.
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434
\$7,497,827.44

Elm Creek - Kearney
Specialty
The Road Guy Constr. Co., Inc.
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434
\$153,472.50

North Loup to Ord, Drainage
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Elec
Paulsen, Inc.
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411
\$2,207,729.53

York West Bridge
Br
A.M. Cohron & Son, Inc.
Grooms, Jerry (402)362-5934
\$227,590.05

Hardy East & West
Specialty
The Road Guy Constr. Co., Inc.
Grooms, Jerry (402)362-5934
\$177,053.00

Davenport West
Specialty
The Road Guy Constr. Co., Inc.
Grooms, Jerry (402)362-5934
\$168,204.00

In York
ConPav
Constructors, Inc.
Anderson, Tom (402)362-5934
\$82,869.20

York North & South
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,
Br, Gdrl Elec
Dobson Bros. Construction Co.
& Affiliates
Anderson, Tom (402)362-5934
\$18,182,230.53

Hampton - Henderson (Eb)
Bit
Dobson Bros. Construction Co.
& Affiliates
Anderson, Tom (402)362-5934
\$667,823.71

In Aurora
Gr, MSE Wall, ConPav, Culv, Elec
Paulsen, Inc.
Nordhues, Bob (308)385-6265
\$1,808,087.83

Doniphan North
Gr, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Weber, Kirk (308)385-6888
\$2,456,679.21

Shelton Interchange
Br
Wilke Contracting Corp.
Weber, Kirk (308)385-6888
\$110,899.70

Odessa Interchange
Elec
Watts Electric Company
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888
\$175,000.30

Ord - Burwell
Gr, Culv, Seed, Elec, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888
\$8,121,354.49

Kearney West
Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Griepentrog, Scott (308)385-6888
\$5,086,203.99

Grant St. - Greenwich St.,
Grand Island
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec
Paulsen, Inc.
Gripenstroh, Scott (308)385-6888
\$4,495,070.38

Locust St. Intchg., Grand Island
Lndscp
Gross Seed Company, Inc.
Schmidt, Larry (308)385-6888
\$137,227.40

Grand Island South (So. Locust St.)
Lndscp
Gross Seed Company, Inc.
Schmidt, Larry (308)385-6888
\$75,151.50

Grand Island Interchange
Sign
Watts Electric Company
Schmidt, Larry (308)385-6888
\$8,320.70

Clay Center North & South
Specialty
The Road Guy Constr. Co., Inc.
Schmidt, Larry (308)385-6888
\$458,562.00

Clay Center West
Gr, Seed, Bit
Vontz Paving, Inc.
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996
\$1,045,443.21

Oak Spur
Culv, Bit
Vontz Paving, Inc.
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996
\$1,269,169.95

Deweese Spur
Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996
\$783,292.41

District 5

Lyman East
Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Weis, Mark (308)635-1926
\$861,907.20

Fort Robinson State Park
Gr, Culv, Bit
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717
\$2,462,829.43

In Dalton
Bit
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Dye, Don (308)635-1926
\$290,959.07

Harrisburg Southeast, 2 Sites
Gr, Culv
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Dye, Don (308)635-1926
\$253,411.41

Bridgeport-Morrill/Garden Co. Line
Gr, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Frickey, Russ (308)262-1929
\$6,819,011.64

Gering West
Gr, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Applegate, Joe (308)632-1429
\$1,772,755.83

NE/SD Line South
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br
Christensen Bros., Inc.
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144
\$2,207,229.65

Gordon East
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
U.S. Asphalt Co.
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144
\$2,392,783.41

Alliance Southwest
Gr
Heggen Construction, Inc.
Hilderbrand, Sylvia L (308)262-1920
\$524,688.89

Wyoming - W. Kimball
Gdrl, Bit
Knife River Midwest, Llc
Rhamy, Wayne (308)632-1429
\$4,536,343.01

Jct. N-71 West
Specialty
Monarch Oil, Inc.
Rhamy, Wayne (308)632-1429
\$937,069.36

Gering Maintenance Facility
Maint. Facility
Heggen Construction, Inc.
Rhamy, Wayne (308)632-1429
\$4,294,341.46

Sunol Link
ConPav, Br
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Johnson, James (308)262-1929
\$190,988.70

Sidney West
Br
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Johnson, James (308)262-1929
\$295,568.49

Niobrara River South of Harrison
Gr, Culv
Paul Reed Constr. & Supply, Inc.
Jacobs, Maryanne (308)632-1429
\$413,692.05

Harrison West
Specialty
Ballou Construction Co., Inc.
Jacobs, Maryanne (308)632-1429
\$344,403.60

Harrison East
Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Jacobs, Maryanne (308)632-1429
\$4,748,795.34

Automated Gate
Closure Project - Rural
Elec
Mid-Plains Power Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$184,787.45

Districtwide, D-5 & D-6
Specialty
Surface Prep. Technologies, Inc.
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$306,479.00

District 6

Mason City Southwest
Gr, Culv, Br
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717
\$309,142.16

N-61/UPRR Lake McConaughy
Gr, MSE Wall, ConPav,
Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec
Paulsen, Inc.
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033
\$5,684,098.81

Roscoe - Paxton
Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033
\$3,265,234.39

Overton Link
Gr, MSE Wall, Culv, Seed,
Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$6,365,563.52

Gothenburg South
Gr, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$3,846,973.25

Building No. 60101
Generator Installation Project
Roberts Electrical Contracting, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$68,420.00

Perkins/Lincoln Co. Line - Dickens
Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Sawyer, Harlan (308)535-8033
\$2,887,432.45

Merna West
Gr, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$2,458,907.71

Brady South
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Capital Contractors, Inc.
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$9,965,526.75

Broken Bow South
Gr, Culv, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
White, Dennis (308)872-6735
\$12,720,608.55

Big Springs - Brule
Bit
Highway Improvement, Inc.
Donahay, Allen (308)535-8031
\$104,278.00

District 7

Holbrook Northwest
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Wilke Contracting Corp.
Krajewski, Anthony (Toney)
(308)995-6677
\$328,436.00

North Jct. US-136 to N-4
Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Kuhn, Kenton (308)995-5397
\$3,258,630.79

In Edison
Elec
Watts Electric Company
Collins, Duane (308)345-8490
\$66,204.20

Cambridge - Holbrook
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Collins, Duane (308)345-8490
\$5,195,002.27

Hayes Center North
Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490
\$4,252,463.02

Republican City - Naponee
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Sell, Tim (308)995-5397
\$5,424,979.40

In Holdrege
Elec
Kayton Electric, Inc.
Dietz, Mark (308)995-5397
\$14,447.40

Holdrege West
Elec
Watts Electric Company
Dietz, Mark (308)995-5397
\$13,897.20

Platte River South
Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Dietz, Mark (308)995-5397
\$2,437,300.87

In Orleans & West
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Dietz, Mark (308)995-5397
\$6,475,503.61

Imperial West
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Doyle, Kelly (308)345-8490
\$4,349,110.41

District 8

Burwell South
Culv
A & R Construction Co.
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717
\$61,123.04

Springview North & South
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Rau, Larry (402)387-2471
\$4,218,606.29

Butte South
Br
Commercial Construction, Inc.
Rau, Larry (402)387-2471
\$1,383,415.09

Arabia West
Bit
Fred Carlson Company, Llc
Rudnick, Michael (402)387-2471
\$2,485,125.22

Hyannis to Snake River
Gr, Culv, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Gustafson, Jay (402)376-1352
\$3,413,491.02

Merriman South Bridge
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Perrett Construction, Ltd.
Gustafson, Jay (402)376-1352
\$4,898,412.25

Cherry County Line North
Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Gustafson, Jay (402)376-1352
\$1,731,268.57

Chambers Jct. South
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Ziska, Dan (402)336-2051
\$5,490,549.91

Districtwide, D-3 & D-8
Specialty
Garcia-Chicoine Enterprises, Inc.
Addison, Jason (402)387-2471
\$275,711.14

Continuing the Story

By Jack Rosecrans
Communication Division

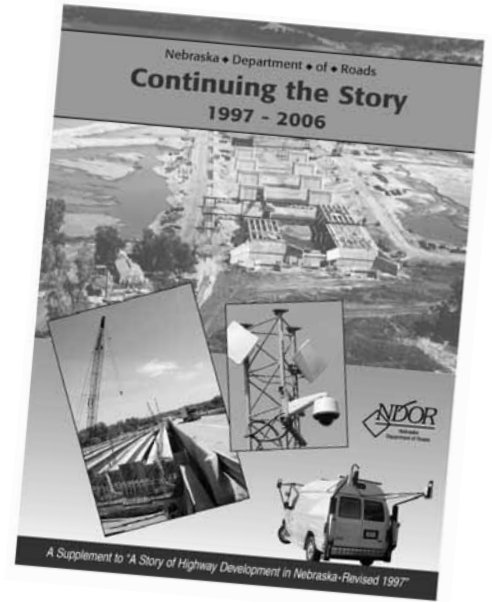
The late George "Dutch" Koster, a long-time Department of Roads employee, authored two exceptional history documents; both entitled "A Story of Highway Development in Nebraska." The first edition was published in 1986, with an updated and expanded version published in 1997. Information presented in both editions was for the purpose of history, education and public information about the development of highways in Nebraska.

Many things have happened within the operational structure of the department since 1997, and it was felt the time was right for another update due to technological advances, organizational changes, funding and program concerns. "Continuing the Story 1997-2006," now available, relates the story of NDOR's progress

concerning operation of the department and accounts affecting department employees.

The publication features a year-by-year account of activities which took place over the ten-year period. Technological advances created significant changes within the department's operation and are included in the update. Employees moving to new positions, safety features introduced into road and bridge designs, new work improvement programs within the department, highlights of the 50th anniversary of the interstate system, funding information, new district facilities, and more is included for readers' information.

Copies of "Continuing the Story 1997-2006" are available by contacting the Communication Division and will be available on the department's web page. ♦



An Indoor Celebration...

Rain didn't spoil the eighth annual Employee Appreciation Day celebration on Tuesday, September 18; it just moved the activities indoors. The halls of NDOR's central headquarters building were filled with informational booths provided by a variety of community organizations. Food was served in a buffet line outside the cafeteria and musical entertainment by several NDOR employees was provided in the cafeteria and auditorium.



Photo by Jay Bailey

Volunteers, including Division Heads, Deputies and the Director, served up hamburgers, polish sausage, beans and potato salad to delighted central headquarters employees.

Service Awards

Congratulations to these dedicated individuals for their work and continued service with the Department of Roads. They celebrate their service dates in *October and November*.

30 Years

Ronald Tompkins, Operations
Mark Hassler, Materials & Research
Robert Grant, Traffic Engineering
Donald Stiger, District 4
Alfred Toombs Jr., Traffic Engineering
Jason Hansen, District 2
Roxanne Sullivan, Right-of-Way
Randall Oenbring, District 1
Anthony Lambert, District 4
Thridworld Oforah, Right-of-Way

20 Years

Marcella Kreiling, District 5

10 Years

Jacqueline Baird, Roadway Design
Louise Bettenhausen, Right of Way
William Sabata, District 1
Amy Waldo, Materials & Research
Weston Washington, District 4
Robert Theasmeyer, District 6
Shari Cunningham, District 2
Dennis Brockman, District 8

NDOR and AGC Partners in Scholarship Fund

The Department of Roads, as a member of WASHTO, receives approximately \$3,000 a year to be used for awards and scholarships to promote excellence in construction.

The Construction Office has been working with the various subcommittees of the Associated General Contractors (AGC) such as

concrete paving, asphalt, traffic control, grading, bridges and erosion control, to select projects for special recognition that were built to high standards, on time and with minimal disruption to the public. They will also recognize the individuals or companies that made that happen.

Along with a keepsake plaque, a contribution is made in the recipient's name to the college of civil engineering or construction management at a Nebraska university of their choice.

So far, \$3,000 has been contributed to the University of Nebraska NDOR/AGC Scholarship Fund.

We Get Letters ...



July 2007

My husband and I drove through Nebraska in May. We were very impressed with your upkeep of the roads and your beautiful rest stops, walkways and the great maintenance.

*Thank you,
Jim & Phyllis Moore
Placerville, California*

The Department of Roads receives numerous complimentary letters. The letters printed here are representative of those often sent praising the many fine and deserving employees of the Department of Roads.

September 4, 2007

Dear Mr. Craig,

Thank you for hosting a blood drive on August 29, 2007 at the Nebraska Department of Roads. The Community Blood Bank relies on organizations and communities such as yours to meet the demands for blood throughout the community.

Here are the results from the previous blood drives held at the Nebraska Department of Roads:

| Date of Drive | # on Schedule | Registered | # of Units |
|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| 1/18/2007 | 34 | 34 | 32 |
| 5/3/2007 | 38 | 35 | 31 |
| 8/29/2007 | 40 | 39 | 36 |

With your help, we saw 39 donors and collected 36 units of blood. Because one unit of blood can potentially save up to three lives, your organization helped 108 patients in Lancaster, Saline, Seward, Polk, York and Jefferson Counties. I especially appreciate the efforts of Diane Holthus in coordinating this drive.

With sponsors like Nebraska Department of Roads, we are able to fulfill our mission: Connecting People—Saving Lives. Thank you for allowing your employees to donate blood during business hours, enabling them to support their community. Participation in this blood drive represents 39 hours of volunteer community service.

Sincerely,

*Phyllis Ericson
Community Blood Bank
Lincoln Nebraska*

NDOR Events Calendar

— October —

International Walk to School Month
www.iwalktoschool.org

- 1-5 Drive Safely Work Week**
www.netsnational.org/dswww.asp
- 2 New Employee Orientation Program**
Rm. 152, 5001 S. 14th (the "Hill")
Contact Carrie Williams @ 479-4870
- 3 2007 Roads Service Awards Ceremony**
9:00 a.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Diane Holthus @ 479-4580
- 4 Letting**
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Liz Wunderlich @ 479-4528
- 4 State Gov't. Nebraska Mgmt. Exposition**
12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., State Capitol
Contact Kay Benson @ 479-4340
- 5 Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.**
Meeting 8:45 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Examination 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 8 State Holiday – Columbus Day**
- 10 Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day**
www.brakesonfatalities.org
- 10 RoadToasters**
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Mike Owen @ 479-4735
- 15 Annual District Transportation Planning Meeting**
District 2 7:00 p.m., Omaha
UNO Alumni Center, 6705 Dodge Street
- 16 Annual District Transportation Planning Meeting**
District 3 7:00 p.m., Wayne
City Auditorium, 220 Pearl Street
- 19 Bd. Public Roads Class. & Stds.**
9:00 a.m., Kearney, Great Platte River Road
Archway Conference Room, 3060 E. 1st Street
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 22-26 National School Bus Safety Week** www.napt.org
- 10/22-11/19 Open Enrollment**
Contact Human Resources @ 479-4574
- 23 Annual District Transportation Planning Meeting**
District 7 7:00 p.m., McCook
Holiday Inn Express, North U.S. 83 & Hwy. 6
- 24 RoadToasters**
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Mike Owen @ 479-4735
- 24 Open Enrollment Meeting with Video Conferencing to Districts**
9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Contact Human Resources @ 479-4574
- 24 Annual District Transportation Planning Meeting**
District 5 7:00 p.m., Gering
Gering Civic Center, 1050 M Street
- 26 Hwy. Commission Meeting**
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Shirley Schafer @ 479-4530
- 30 Blood Drive – Community Blood Bank**
NDOR Central Headquarters
Contact Diane Holthus @ 479-4580

— November —

- 10/22-11/19 Open Enrollment**
Contact Diane Holthus @ 479-4580
- 11/1-12/31 Retirement – Change from Defined Contribution to Cash Balance**
Contact Human Resources @ 479-4574
- 2 Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.**
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 6 Annual District Transportation Planning Meeting**
District 6 7:00 p.m., North Platte
Holiday Inn Express, 300 Holiday Frontage Road
- 7 Annual District Transportation Planning Meeting**
District 4 7:00 p.m., Central City
Community Room, 1515 17th Street
- 8 Letting**
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Liz Wunderlich @ 479-4528
- 12 State Holiday – Veterans' Day**
- 13 New Employee Orientation Program**
Rm. 152, 5001 S. 14th (the "Hill")
Contact Carrie Williams @ 479-4870
- 14 RoadToasters**
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Mike Owen @ 479-4735
- 16 Hwy. Commission Meeting**
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Shirley Schafer @ 479-4530
- 16 Bd. Public Roads Class. & Stds.**
9:00 a.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 22-23 State Holiday – Thanksgiving**
- 28 RoadToasters**
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Mike Owen @ 479-4735

— December —

- National Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention Month**
- 11/1-12/31 Retirement – Change from Defined Contribution to Cash Balance**
Contact Human Resources @ 479-4574
- 13 Letting**
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Liz Wunderlich @ 479-4528
- 4 New Employee Orientation Program**
Rm. 152, 5001 S. 14th (the "Hill")
Contact Carrie Williams @ 479-4870
- 10 RoadToasters - Holiday Meeting**
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Mike Owen @ 479-4735
- 14 Hwy. Commission Meeting**
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Shirley Schafer @ 479-4530
- 19 RoadToasters**
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Mike Owen @ 479-4735
- 25 State Holiday – Christmas**

If you would like a key event included on upcoming calendars, call the Communication Office 479-4512 or e-mail lwilson@dor.state.ne.us. Information for the December/January Roadrunner should be received by November 15.



High Blood Pressure: Know your Numbers

By Mary Spitsnogle, RN



It seems difficult to believe that anyone would pass up simple and painless opportunities to prevent serious damage to their body, damage that can lead to disability and even death. That is what a large number of Americans are doing. It is now estimated that close to one-third of Americans have high blood pressure.

Of that group, only one in three know they have high blood pressure.

High blood pressure is called hypertension by the medical community. It also has received another name, "the silent killer." In most cases high blood pressure has no symptoms and can go undetected for years. During those years damage can be done to the arteries, heart, brain, kidneys and eyes. High blood pressure in middle age can even increase the risk of dementia when older.

Almost everyone with high blood pressure can have it controlled with lifestyle changes or medication in combination with lifestyle changes. Lifestyle changes recommended in 2003 by the Joint National Committee of Prevention, Detection, Evaluation and Treatment of High Blood Pressure are as follows:

- Maintain a healthy weight. Losing even 5-10 pounds can lower your blood pressure.

- Eat healthy foods. DASH (Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension) involves an eating plan that emphasizes fruits, vegetables, and low fat dairy foods and is low in saturated fat, total fat, and cholesterol. The DASH plan includes whole grains, poultry, fish and nuts and has reduced the amounts of fats, red meats, sweets and sugared beverages. Another eating plan that is similar and is interactive on the internet is at MyPyramid.gov.
- Increase physical activity. Strive for a minimum of 30 minutes on most days.
- Quit smoking.
- Modify alcohol intake. No more than one drink daily for women and two drinks daily for men.

There are risk factors that we are not able to control. These risk factors include: advancing age, family history and race. High blood pressure tends to be more common with African Americans, often starting at a younger age.

High blood pressure is a serious danger to our bodies that can be avoided. The only way you will know if you have high blood pressure is if you have your blood pressure checked. With heart disease being the number one cause of death in America, it is important to learn your numbers and rely on the advice of your physician for prevention and treatment if you are faced with this issue. You may not only be saving your life, but you will be improving the quality of your years ahead.

